

FYEDKA

(speaking to Chava)

I'm sorry about my friends. They mean no harm. I'd like to talk to you. I've often noticed you at the bookseller's. Not many girls in this village like to read (A sudden thought strikes him. He extends the book he is holding). Would you like to borrow this book? It's very good. Oh..why not? Because I'm not Jewish? Do you feel about us the way they feel about you? I didn't think you would. And what do you know about me? Let me tell you about myself. I'm a pleasant fellow, charming, honest, ambitious, quite bright and very modest. Go ahead, take the book. After you return it, I'll ask you how you like it, and we'll talk about it for a while. Then we'll talk about life, how we feel about things and it can all turn out quite pleasant.